Specification Amendment

Please amend the paragraph at page 10, lines 1 - 9, as follows:

- -Fig. 7 illustrates the optical arrangement inside the stereoscopic microscope main body shown in Fig. 6. Light flux emitted from the observation object 86 passes through the objective optical system 87 and is deflected by the optical path reflecting element 88. A first reflective surface (i.e., the reflective surface of optical path reflecting element 88) deflects light paths from the objective optical system to a substantially horizontal direction. This light flux is then separated into two light fluxes by passing through left and right zoom optical systems 89, 89 after which the light fluxes are each relayed by a respective front lens group 90 and passed into a pair of first relay optical systems. The first relay optical systems are formed of various prisms 92. A second reflective surface (i.e., the lower reflective surface of the prisms 92) then deflects the light paths upward, and a third reflective surface (i.e., the upper reflective surface of the prisms 92) then deflects the light paths to a substantially horizontal direction. Thus, the first through third reflective surfaces form a folded optical system and the pair of zoom optical systems is arranged within the folded optical system. After exiting the first relay optical systems, each left and right light flux passes through a respective rear lens group 91 and is then emitted from the first connector 93 toward the first observation device (not shown). - -

Please amend the paragraph at page 10, lines 10 - 13, as follows:

- - Further, the light fluxes 94, 94 exiting the first relay optical systems are split by a beam splitter 96 which is in the optical paths and directly below the second connector 95. Thus, two light fluxes 97 and 98 are split off from light fluxes that otherwise would enter the first connector 93 and instead are directed to the second connector 95. As illustrated in Fig. 7, the first and second connectors are arranged on opposite sides of the optical axis of the objective optical system as viewed in a direction of the horizontal optical path of the folded optical system. - -